

### 63 Congressmen Sign Letter to Secretary of the Navy

### Akin to Offer Amdt on the Issue at Markup this Week

*Washington, DC* – Today Congressman Todd Akin, Chairman of the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee, released a letter he sent with 62 other Congressmen to the Secretary of the Navy, calling for the Navy to obey the law in regard to the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). This comes in response to a recent Navy memo allowing for military bases and facilities to be used for same-sex marriage ceremonies as well as allowing Navy chaplains to perform same-sex marriages in their official capacity. Congressman Akin released the following statement:

“The Defense of Marriage Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton in 1996. The law of the land is that the federal government defines marriage as between one man and one woman. This new guidance from the Navy clearly violates the law. While our President may not like this law, it is unbelievable that our Navy would issue guidance that clearly violates this law. While a state may legalize same-sex marriage, federal property and federal employees, like Navy chaplains, should not be used to perform marriages that are not recognized by federal law.

“My colleagues and I are calling on the Secretary of the Navy to make sure that the Navy actually follows the law. As we state in the letter, ‘It is not the place of any citizen of this country to pick and choose which laws they are going to obey. We expect citizens sworn to defend those laws to set the example in their application.’”

In addition to Congressman Akin, the letter was signed by the following members:

Aderholt, Robert

AL-04

Bartlett, Roscoe

MD-06

Bishop, Rob

UT-01

Black, Dianne

TN-06

Boustany, Charles W. Jr.

LA-07

Burton, Dan

IN-05

Canseco, Francisco

TX-23

Carter, John

TX-31

Chaffetz, Jason

UT-03

Coffman, Mike

CO-06

Conaway, Michael

TX-11

Crawford, Rick

AR-01

Davis, Geoff

KY-04

Duncan, Jeff

SC-03

Duncan, John J. Jr.

TN-02

Fincher, Stephen

TN-08

Fleming, John

LA-04

Flores, Bill

TX-17

Forbes, Randy

VA-04

Foxx, Virginia

NC-05

Franks, Trent

AZ- 02

Garrett, Scott

NJ-05

Gingrey, Phil

GA-11

Gohmert, Louie

TX-01

Griffin, Tim

AR-02

Harper, Gregg

MS-03

Hartzler, Vicky

MO-04

Herger, Wally

CA-02

Huelskamp, Tim

KS-01

Hunter, Duncan

CA-52

Johnson, Bill

OH-06

Jones, Walter

NC-03

Jordan, Jim

OH-04

King, Steve

IA-05

Kline, John

MN-02

Lamborn, Doug

CO-05

Landry, Jeff

LA-03



Lankford, James

OK-05

LaTourette, Steven

OH-14

Latta, Bob

OH-05

McClintock, Tom

CA-04

McMorris Rodgers, Cathy

WA-05

Miller, Jeff

FL-01

Myrick, Sue

NC-09

Neugebauer, Randy

TX-19

Nugent, Richard

FL-05

Nunnelee, Alan

MS-01

Palazzo, Stephen

MS-04

Pompeo, Mike

KS-04

Rigell, Scott

VA-02

Roe, Phil

TN-01

Rogers, Mike

AL-03

Rooney, Tom

FL-16

Scott, Austin

GA-08

Shuster, Bill

PA-09

Smith, Chris

NJ-04

Southerland, Steve

FL-02

West, Allen

FL-22

Westmoreland, Lynn A.

GA-03

Wilson, Joe

SC-02

Wittman, Robert

VA-01

Womack, Steve

AR-03

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